

From: up(u)link
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/7/01 8:04am
Subject: Settlement terms

Good Morning,

I am writing in regards to the Microsoft settlement. From my understanding of the settlement, Microsoft is to donate software to the poorest schools. While I can see how getting technology into the schools can be of benefit, requiring that MS get into the schools allows them to extend their monopoly.

Apple, who only has a single-digit market share in the private sector, has a strong presence in the educational market. By forcing MS into the schools, it helps them extend their dominant presence. The same applies to Linux. This is a free operating system that can run well on older hardware, unlike the hardware-taxing Windows 2000 or XP.

The settlement rewards Microsoft by increasing their presence. Is that supposed to be a punishment?

Craig Lewis

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